

# MICHIGAN CAREER PATHWAYS ALLIANCE

Educate. Empower. Employ.

## MICHIGAN CAREER PATHWAYS LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

### POLICY

- ☐ **Showcase Michigan Merit Curriculum flexibility** – Allow computer science as a foreign language, and career health programs to count as health and/or physical education requirements. Valuable, outside project-based learning opportunities such as Square One and FIRST Robotics will also be considered for credit.
- ☐ **Implement career exploration and job readiness** – Change the Michigan Merit Curriculum to include a robust career exploration and job readiness (job skills for the 21st Century) course in 7th, 8th or 9th grade.
- ☐ **EDPs & Talent Transcripts** – Add language to the Michigan Merit Curriculum to codify MDE efforts to increase utilization of EDPs and talent transcripts (*Italics to denote that this is being done administratively*).

### APPROPRIATIONS

- ☐ **Use tools for student career planning** – Encourage statewide use of Career Cruising, MI Bright Future and Pathfinder for students (and adults) to explore career options and learn the steps necessary to enter desired careers.
- ☐ **Enhance career counseling** – Support districts with the hiring of “career development facilitators” that support school counselors, with the focus of helping students explore career options, whether that pathway is early/middle college, apprenticeship, community college or four-year universities, and provide guidance on setting a path to a career. We have additional “best practices” from which districts can choose.
- ☐ **Showcase Michigan Merit Curriculum flexibility** – Provide technical assistance to school districts on how to integrate Michigan Merit Curriculum requirements with career programs, such as geometry and carpentry.
- ☐ **Bring education and business together** – Establish a formal entity and mechanism to build and maintain a collaborative partnership with local districts, employers, advocates and training centers to help match what is being taught with community needs.
- ☐ **Match crowdfunding for counselors and Professional Trades programs** – A program to provide state-matching dollars through a crowdfunding program to assist in covering the costs for counselors and Professional Trades programs.
- ☐ **Expand CTE statewide** – Start the discussion to provide equitable opportunities for all students with additional funding to schools to operate CTE and Professional Trades programs statewide.
- ☐ **Continue Going PRO campaign #GoingPROinMI to change perception of Professional Trades** – Peer-to-peer approach aimed at students, parents, educators, coaches. Will include paid media, website, social, blogs, video, career fairs, open-source sharing with stakeholders.